

## Message Text

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51

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OMB-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01

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R 020717Z DEC 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3047

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 13001

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, AL

SUBJECT: PEKING TREATMENT OF ALBANIA'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

SUMMARY. PRC ATTENTION TO ALBANIA'S NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS WAS CONSIDERABLY HIGHER THAN IN 1973, REFLECTING PROBABLY THE SIGNIFICANCE OF A 30TH ANNIVERSARY. THE OCCASION, HOWEVER, PROVIDED POLITBURO MEMBER AND LEFTIST IDEOLOGUE YAO WEN-YUAN CONSIDERABLE PUBLICITY AS LEADER OF GOVERNMENT AND PARTY DELEGATION TO TIRANA. CHINESE MESSAGE AND SPEECHES LARGELY IGNORED INTERNATIONAL ISSUES OTHER THAN STATEMENTS ON U.S. IMPERIAISM AND SOVIET SOCIAL-IMPERIALISM, IN WHICH SOVIETS RECEIVED HARSHER TREATMENT. END SUMMARY.

1. ALBANIA'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL LIBERATION DAY NOVEMBER 29 PROVIDED AMPLE OPPORTUNITY FOR DISPLAYING SINO-ALBANIAN FRIENDSHIP. FOUR SEPARATE CHINESE DELEGATIONS ATTENDED THE CELEBRATIONS IN TIRANA: A GOVERNMENT AND PARTY GROUP HEADED  
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BY POLITBURO MEMBER AND LEFTIST IDEOLGUE YAO WEN-YUAN WITH

ALTERNATE POLITBURO MEMBER AND MILITANT FEMALE MODEL TEXTILE WORKER WU KUEI-HSIEN AS DEPUTY LEADER; A PEOPLE'S DAILY DELEGATION; A WORKERS GROUP; AND A GOOD WILL DELEGATION. BOTH OF THE LATTER TWO WERE HEADED BY PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS. CHINESE PARTICIPATION IN THE ALBANIAN AMBASSADOR'S PEKING RECEPTION WAS ALSO UPGRADED WITH FIVE POLITBURO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE COMPARED WITH ONLY TWO LAST YEAR. THE OCCASION WAS FURTHER EXPLOITED BY THE INAUGURAL FLIGHT OF CHINA'S PEKING-TEHRAN-BUCHAREST-TIRANA AIR SERVICE.

2. AS IN 1973, HOWEVER, THE PRC CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FAILED TO REFER TO HOXHA AS A "GREAT MARXIST-LENINIST LEADER." IN THE MESSAGE AND VARIOUS CHINESE SPEECHES U.S. IMPERIALISM WAS GIVEN A BACK SEAT TO SOVIET SOCIAL-IMPERIALISM. THE PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL PRAISED ALBANIA FOR HAVING "STOOD UP TO THE ECONOMIC BLOCKADE, POLITICAL BLACKMAIL, MILITARY PRESSURE AND SUBVERSION AND SABOTAGE CARRIED OUT BY THE SOVIET SOCIAL-IMPERIALISTS." THE CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE PRAISED ALBANIA'S OPPOSITION TO THE "POLICY OF AGGRESSION AND HEGEMONISM OF THE TWO SUPERPOWERS" BUT ADDED THAT ALBANIA HAD "PARTICULARLY WAGED A TIT-FOR-TAT STRUGGLE AGAINST SOVIET MODERN REVISIONISM." OTHER INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS WERE NORMALLY DISREGARDED.

3. ON THE ALBANIANS' PART, THEY WENT ALL OUT WITH CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SHEHU SERVING AS OFFICIAL HOST FOR THE YAO-LED DELEGATION AND MEETING THEM AT THE AIRPORT WITH A BAND, HONOR GUARD AND THE REST OF THE TRIMMINGS. BESIDES SERVING AS A FOCAL POINT FOR SINO-ALBANIAN FRIENDSHIP, THE OCCASION ALSO PROVIDED A BOOST FOR YAO WEN-YUAN PERSONALLY. HIS LAST OVERSEAS TRIP WAS ALSO TO TIRAN IN 1967 WHEN HE HEADED A RED GUARD DELEGATION.

4. TO SOME EXTENT, THE ADDITIONAL ATTENTION PAID TO ALBANIA THIS YEAR CAN BE JUSTIFIED BY THE FACT THAT IT IS A 30TH ANNIVERSARY AND, THUS, MORE SIGNIFICANT THAN A NORMAL ANNUAL CELEBRATION. CHINESE EMPHASIS ON THE SOVIETS AS THE DIRECT THREAT TO ALBANIA (AND PERHAPS BY EXTENSION TO OTHER PARTS OF EUROPE) ALSO PROVIDES AN ADDED OUTLET FOR CHINESE ANTI-SOVIET STATEMENTS. ON BALANCE, HOWEVER, BOTH THE CHINESE AND THE ALBANIANS APPEAR TO BE STRESSING UNITY IN BILATERAL RELATION-  
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SHIPS AND TIES. THE ABSENCE OF MORE PRECISE COMMENTS ON OTHER INTERNATIONAL ISSUES LEADS TO SPECULATION THAT THERE REMAINS SOME DISAGREEMENT, PARTICULARLY BY ALBANIA WITH CHINA'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S.  
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## Message Attributes

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